

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

S E C R E T STATE 059190

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, CG, AO, US

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INCREASED MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE

REFS: A) KINSHASA 1673; B) KINSHASA 1662; C) KINSHASA 1839

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S CONTINUED CONCERN REGARDING SECURITY SITUATION IN LIGHT OF ANGOLA AND HIS WISH TO KNOW WHAT US IS PREPARED TO DO TO STRENGTHEN ZAIRE'S MILITARY POSTURE. WE AGREE BILATERAL DISCUSSION OF MILITARY AID MIGHT BE USEFUL AND ARE PREPARED HOLD MEETING AT GOZ CONVENIENCE (EITHER KINSHASA OR WASHINGTON.)

2. FYI: DEPARTMENT ONLY NOW COMPLETING OPTIONS PAPER ENCOMPASSING FMS AND SSA FOR ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA AND FMS FOR GABON. FY 77 SECURITY SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOR PRESENTATION TO CONGRESS ON MARCH 25 AT WHICH TIME WE ASSUME ADMINISTRATION WILL HAVE FIXED FIRM

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FIGURE FOR PROPOSED FMS ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE. END FYI.

3. UNLESS YOU HAVE RESERVATIONS, OR BELIEVE IT PREFERABLE
UE SEND MILITARY TEAM TO CONDUCT TALKS IN KINSHASA,
SUGGEST YOU INFORM GENERAL BABIA OF OUR WILLING-
NESS TO OPEN DISCUSSION OF ZAIRIAN ARMS REQUEST (WITH
UNDERSTANDING WE ARE NOT IN POSITION TO DISCUSS AID
LEVEL), TO BE CONTINUED IN GREATER DETAIL LATER WHEN
WE HAVE CONGRESSIONAL RESPONSE TO ADMINISTRATION PROPOSAL.
KISSINGER SUBJECT TEL REISSUED WITH EXDIS CAPTION PER STATE 059409

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